

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Roger William Frank ASHTON

Serial

Number: 10/559,950

Group Art Unit:

Filing Date: December 9, 2005

Examiner:

Title: FIXING ASSEMBLY

Mail Stop PCT

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attorney Docket No. 10557/323978

Date: 11/8/06

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with Rules 56, 97 and 98 of the Rules of Practice in Patent Cases (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98), the publications listed on the modified Form PTO/SB/08 are cited for consideration by the Examiner. Enclosed are copies of the non-U.S. patent documents.

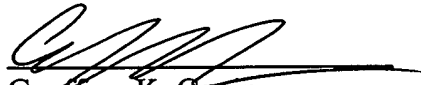
Submission of the references provided in this Information Disclosure is not intended to constitute an admission that any reference referred to herein is prior art for this invention unless specially designated as such. Also, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), before issuance of a first Office action on the merits. Applicant believes that no fee is due

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/559,950
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for submission and consideration of this paper. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this filing to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	29/240,920		
		Date Filed:	October 20, 2005		
		First Named Inventor	Steven Mark Guy ROLFE		
		Group Art Unit	2914		
		Examiner Name			
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	10457/321927

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-D/D-YYYY/	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-5,549,692	08-27-1996	Hauser	*English language family member of EP 0 551 794 A1
		US-6,416,553 B1	07-09-2002	White, et al.	
		US-6,454,809 B1	09-24-2002	Tornier	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		FR 2 827 503	01-24-2003	Macara		WO 03/013397 Abstract
		EP 0 551 794 A1	07-21-1993	Sulzer		

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.